FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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PLO Official on Rejection of Murphy's Proposals

PM2804074 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Apr 83 p 1

[Khalid Muhammad Barzak report] [Abu Jihad Talks Al-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] [There Is No Disagreement Between the PLO and Jordan and the Rejection of Murphy's Proposal Is Based on Good Principles]

[Text] London — Deputy Commander in Chief of the Palestinian Revolution's Forces Khalil Al-Wazir [Abu Jihad] has denied any disagreement between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides following the PLO's rejection of U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's proposals regarding Palestinian participation in peace negotiations.

In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Abu Jihad said that the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement was concluded with the aim of guaranteeing support for and response to a just settlement of the Palestinian question and of affirming to the whole world that the PLO is interested in a just peace and in breaking the deadlock in many stages. That deadlock, he said, was a result of the U.S. Administration's lack of interest in the Middle East problem and in finding a solution for it, and also of Arab divisions.

Abu Jihad declared that the PLO's rejection of Murphy's proposals stems from its fundamental and final Palestinian principles which emphasize PLO representation of the Palestinian people. He added that the Jordanian side knew and approved of these final principles when the agreement was signed. That is why, he said, we cannot claim Palestinian-Jordanian differences are arising.

He confirmed the PLO's determination to reinforce good relations with Jordan in the present circumstances of conspiracy plots against the Palestinian people and their PLO. The PLO, he said, is always looking for common ground with Jordan and is always ready to avoid disagreements and to adhere to the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement.

Abu Jihad pointed out that the PLO has rejected Murphy's proposals because these proposals will ignore the Palestinian people's rights and could be called a plot. The PLO, he said, has explained to Jordan its rejection of these proposals and the dangers involved, the two sides are continuing.

He confirmed the PLO's adherence to the Fahd Plan and agreements and any endeavors to peacefully advocate Arab peace initiatives. Such agreements brought victory to the Palestinian people. He also said that the PLO would oppose any initiative or U.S. plan designed to attack the PLO or to weaken confidence in the PLO and Arab determination of the Palestinian people.

Al-Natshah on Murphy's Proposals

JN2504043 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1837 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Brother Rafiq al-Natshah, member of the Fatah central committee, has affirmed that the Palestinian leadership has rejected Richard Murphy's proposals, considering them an attempt to impose Palestinian legitimacy [L] a statement to UN-A radio. Al-Natshah ruled out the possibility of any progress in the U.S. stand vis-a-vis the Palestinian question and any U.S. recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He said the Palestinian people have no choice but to continue armed struggle to regain their usurped national rights.

PLO Protests Dispatch of Syrian Forces To Beirut

LD2903027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Tunis, 29 Apr (INA) — The PLO has warned of the gravity of the decision adopted by the members of the ruling regime in Syria to dispatch units of Syrian special forces to Beirut in order to tighten control over the Palestinian camps. In a statement issued today and carried by Al-Sa'ir, the PLO said that these units had entered Beirut under Lebanese and Palestinian names. They are seeking to control vital installations that were assigned in advance to Damascus or its proxies in order to foil the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces. It stressed that the Syrian regime, which is involved in the plot against the Lebanese and Palestinian people, is openly implementing its secret agreements concluded with Murphy with the aim of striking at the PLO and oppressing the Arab resistance.

It added that the Syrian regime has now to come to terms with the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters' steadfastness in their defense of their camps and cities, a matter which leads it more to despair in the direction of failure.

The PLO regarded statements issued not by those Arabs who intend to harm Lebanese unity — statements that were received hot this time by only Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia — as a call to foil these criminal plots which envisage Palestinian-Lebanese and Arab-Palestinian fighting. It also regarded as a step required of Damascus by the Syrian regime as well as the destruction and slogans of the coalition.

'Arafat Returns to Tunis After Arab Joint Visit

LD2903017 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Brother Arafat, Abu Jihad, Dr Issa Sartawi and others arrived in Tunis following a visit to several Arab and Asian countries during this visit, Abu Jihad, and the accompanying delegation held talks with leaders and senior officials of the countries visited. The talks dealt especially with the Palestinian question and the latest developments in Arab-Israeli Abu Jihad's visit.

[Begin recording] The Arabic community in Tunis, as are the Palestinian residents there, and members of the PLO Executive Committee received in Tunis airport following a visit to Kuwait, Iraq, India, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Malaysia, and the

YAR Brother Abu 'Ammar also presided over meetings of the Palestinian leadership in Baghdad, and participated in the Non-aligned Coordinating Bureau's meeting on Namibia.

In the meantime, Brother Abu al-Lutf [Farouq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, made a statement in Kuala Lumpur in which he said that the United States is responsible for obstructing efforts to solve the Palestine question. He said Washington claims that it wishes to cooperate in the peace process, but it is asking unreasonable concessions from the Palestinians.

Brother Abu al-Lutf, who is currently visiting Malaysia, said in statements reported by the Malaysian news agency yesterday that the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement represents a work program for reactivating the Fes plan that was approved by the Arab leaders and that is considered a basis for a just solution.

Brother Abu al-Lutf is on a 3-day visit to Malaysia after attending celebrations marking the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Conference, which witnessed the birth of the Nonaligned Movement.

In Sanaa, Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, said that he reviewed with Yemeni officials during his visit to the YAR, which ended yesterday, the conditions of Palestinians, especially those in Palestinian camps. He said in a statement before leaving the Yemeni capital that the Palestinian people are determined to continue armed struggle to confront Zionist plots.

Brother Abu Jihad began his visit to the YAR last Thursday. [End recording]

'Arafat Views Palestinian-Jordanian Agreement

PM300659 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 27 Apr 85 p 17

[Interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Charles Saint-Prot in Baghdad; — date not given]

[Text] *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS*: You have just met with King Hussein of Jordan in Amman. What is the position on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed last February?

Yasir 'Arafat: The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement has won unanimous favor. During my last visit to Amman (10 to 12 April), it was decided, with King Hussein, to coordinate our efforts to strengthen the agreements signed in various subjects.

— We [word illegible] are a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to meet the five permanent U.N. Security Council members [word illegible] of the basic points of our agreement relative to the organization of an international conference at which the permanent Security Council members will be invited in addition to all the other interested in the conflict.

— We also formed a joint delegation which will establish contact with the other Arab countries. A meeting was arranged with [Algerian] President Bendjedid before his departure for the United States.

— We have finally decided to step up our joint action in the occupied territories through a Jordanian-Palestinian committee.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was given a mixed reception within the PLO. Is there now a consensus on it?

Yasir 'Arafat: We have just held a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and of the Fatah Council and I can tell you that all the members are in favor of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, which is at present the only way of achieving a positive settlement.

Contrary to what may have been said by some people, the joint agreement is not a concession by the PLO. The PLO is still the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative and the only authority capable of speaking for the Palestinian people.

Moreover, during our meeting in Baghdad we recalled that our action is consistent with the provisions adopted at the Fes Arab summit (September 1982), and our central objective is still the implementation of our people's right to self-determination, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, and the holding of an international conference for a comprehensive peace settlement. We hope that all the Arabs remember those principles which were the object of a consensus in Fes.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: How do you assess the proposal made by President Mubarak a few weeks ago?

Yasir 'Arafat: We have said that this proposal contains the ingredients and that we stand by the terms of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: You plan to establish contact with the five permanent Security Council members, but do you not expect more opposition from the United States despite [Assistant Secretary of State] Murphy's recent statement [on an American-Palestinian-Jordanian meeting]?

Yasir 'Arafat: So far the American position has remained negative because the United States is meeting any opposition on three counts:

— Recognition of the PLO's presence at the negotiations.

— Refusal to foresee the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

— Refusal to hold an international conference.

[illegible] a tentative deadline for reaching a comprehensive settlement. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Palestinian-Jordanian meeting is only valid if the United States agrees to regard the PLO as the Palestinian People's legitimate representative and to open dialogue on this basis.

It must be clear that we will never agree to see the PLO excluded from the negotiations because the PLO is the soul of the whole Palestinian people's resistance. Despite the attempts by some Arab regimes to cause divisions, it is clear that we are the sole representatives of 5 million Palestinians. I've said I'd like to add that we are democratically elected representatives, and not in the kind of elections in which victory is achieved by 99.97 percent of the votes!

It will never be possible to bypass the PLO because that would mean bypassing the whole Palestinian people, and there can be no peace without the PLO. Furthermore, if we did not represent a whole people, we would have vanished from the political scene long ago!

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: Precisely, there are many people who want to see you vanish from the scene, as is demonstrated by the events in Sidon, and then in Beirut.

Yasir 'Arafat: It is important to understand what is at stake at present in Sidon and throughout Lebanon. There is a plot which has two objectives. First, to liquidate the Palestinians, and this is what is happening in Sidon; second, to impose the partition of Lebanon into confessional entities, and Israel's various agents are striving to ensure the success of this plot, and it is an American-Israeli plan supported by some Arab regimes, which there is not even any need to name. In Lebanon our forces are fully committed in the Sidon region alongside the Lebanese patriots and we have just strengthened the anti-military force against the militia which are acting as Israel's agents.

I would like to add that what is happening in Lebanon at present is extremely serious. It is the whole country that is threatened with partition. When we were the main force in Lebanon (before 1982), we always opposed the partition and destruction of Lebanon which is part of a vast Israeli plan to divide the Arab nation. It was after our departure from Beirut that the inter-Lebanese situation deteriorated and that the specter of partition appeared. All those who help bring about confessional splits are the accomplices of Israeli policy.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: You have always hoped that France and Europe would play a role in achieving peace in the Near East. Have you not been disappointed for the past few years?

Yasir 'Arafat: I have indeed always thought that the EEC and France in particular can act as intermediaries, especially with the United States, and that Europe can therefore play a positive part in drawing up a peace process. It is true that we have hitherto expected more from France than it has done, but we still hope and wish in particular that it might use the historic opportunity of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to take an initiative.

AL-WAZIR Stresses PLO Representation in Any Talks

JN291840 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1817 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has affirmed the PLO's rejection of any solution on the Camp David pattern and any attempt to form a delegation for possible negotiations in which the PLO is not represented on an equal footing with the others in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. In press statements published in Kuwait yesterday, brother Abu Jihad denied the existence of any Palestinian-Jordanian differences due to the PLO's rejection of the U.S. proposals submitted by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy.

BAHRAIN

PLO's 'Arafat Concludes Visit to Manama

GF261946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Manama, 26 Apr (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Manama today for Sanaa following a 2-day visit to Bahrain within a tour of a number of Arab countires.

During the visit, 'Arafat held talks with a number of senior Bahraini officials on the developments of the Palestinian issue in particular, and Arab and international issues in general; in addition he discussed the Palestinian-Jordanian moves in light of the joint agreement between them, the results of 'Arafat's tour of a number of Asian countries, and the developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

On his departure, 'Arafat was seen off by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, the Bahraini foreign minister; and Wafa al-Nabhan, director of the PLO office in Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Ghanaian Minister of State Conducts 4-Day Visit

Meets Amir, Prime Minister

LD301019 Kuwait KUNA in English 0907 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 30 (KUNA) — Ghana and Kuwait held identical views on the necessity for an immediate end of the Iraq-Iran war and the settlement of outstanding disputes between the two neighbouring countries by peaceful means, according to a senior Kuwaiti official Tuesday.

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid al-Rashid said that the four-day visit to Kuwait, concluded early today, by the vice chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) in Ghana, Justice Daniel Francis Anan has been in response to an invitation from H.H. the crown prince and premier, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah and in the framework of the two countries's zeal interest to strengthen and develop the existing cordial relations between them.

During the visit, the esteemed guest was received by H.H. the amir to whom he conveyed greetings of the chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council in the Republic of Ghana, the minister said.

On the Kuwaiti-Ghanaian official talks, led by the crown prince and prime minister and the vice chairman of the PNDC in Ghana, the official said they dealt with means to promote and develop bilateral ties of cooperation as well as world issues of mutual interest, particularly questions of the African Continent and the Arab homeland. The talks, according to Minister Rashid, also touched upon different aspects of the Palestinian problem, the situation in Lebanon, the question of Namibia's independence and Afro-Arab cooperation, he added.

Justice Anan conferred during his stay here with the ministers of finance and economy cum chairman of the Kuwait fund for Arab economic development, oil and energy, information, works and the chairman of the public authority for agricultural affairs and fisheries, Al-Rashid said, adding that the meetings reviewed different prospects and means of promoting bilateral cooperation between Kuwait and Ghana.

He also visited a number of public institutions in the country for a closer view of the process of development and construction in Kuwait, the official added.

Al-Rashid quoted the Ghanaian official as having expressed deep appreciation and gratitude for the hospitality accorded by Kuwait which he described as an expression of the existing close ties and the continued dominance of the spirit of Afro-Arab cooperation in varius fields.

The official concluded that the Ghanaian guest has extended an official invitation to the crown prince and premier to visit Ghana and that his highness has accepted the invitation, date of which will be determined later, Al-Rashid said.

Departs 30 April

LD301033 Kuwait KUNA in English 1001 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 30 (KUNA) — Vice Chairman of the Ghanaian National Provisional Defense Council Justice Daniel Francois Anan left Kuwait Tuesday morning [30 April] ending a four-day official visit.

He was seen off at the airport by H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Said al-Abdallah al-Sabah, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid.

Minister of electricity and water and head of the honourary mission Muhammad al-Sayid 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Rifai, Kuwait's ambassador in Accra Muhammed Salim al-Balhan, the Ghanaian charge d'affaires to Kuwait and a number of officials of the Council of Ministers and the Foreign Ministry were also there to bid him farewell.

Foreign Minister Receives Notes from Bahrain, USSR

LD291345 Kuwait KUNA in English 1224 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 29 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Monday received a message from Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Mohammed ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah dealing with bilateral relations and developments in the Arab world.

The message was conveyed by Bahrain's ambassador here 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Rahman Abu 'Ali during an encounter with Kuwait's top diplomat.

Shaykh Sabah two weeks ago sent messages to foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council relating to developments in the region and the situation in the Arab world.

Meanwhile, Shaykh Sabah also received a verbal message from Czechoslovakia's foreign minister Bohuslav Chnoupek relayed by Czech ambassador to Kuwait.

The message was pertinent to issues Chnoupek discussed with Kuwaiti leaders during a recent visit here.

Later, Shaykh Sabah received the recently appointed Philipino charge d'affaires with whom he discussed issues of joint interest.

Saudi General Meets Military Officials on Cooperation

LD301132 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1106 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, 30 April — General Muhammad Salih al-Hammad, chief of the General Staff of the Saudi Armed Forces, held talks here today with Kuwaiti military officials on military cooperation between the two countries. The talks also covered military and coordination cooperation between them in the field of training and manuevers.

Gen al-Hammad arrived here yesterday for a 3-day visit. Earlier today, the general and members of his delegation visited the Kuwaiti Al-Maghawir forces.

Gen al-Hammad's visit falls within the framework of consultation and coordination among the six GCC countries to develop the Gulf Rapid Deployment Forces, in accordance with the recommendations made by the GCC Defense Ministers' Council. The new force will be within the general framework of the GCC armies and will be used for defending and protecting the region.

Bulgarian Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

LD291948 Kuwait KUNA in English 1635 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 29 (KUNA) — Bulgarian Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Ivan Janiv arrived here Monday on an official four-day visit to the country within the framework of an Arab tour that took him so far to Jordan and Syria.

He told KUNA on arrival that Kuwait and Bulgaria maintain advanced economic, political and cultural relations and noted that nourishing such relationship needs exchange of visits to explore new avenues for developing these ties.

Janiv said that bilateral cooperation plans had been drawn during H.H. the amir's visit to Sofia in 1981 and the trip to Kuwait in 1982 by chairman of the Bulgarian Council of State.

The undersecretary underlined that his visit falls in line with the agreement between the two countries' foreign ministries for maintaining consultative meetings.

"We will review bilateral relations and will exchange views on international questions of mutual concern," he concluded.

The guest will meet his Kuwaiti counterpart Sulayman Majid al-Shahin Tuesday while on Wednesday Janiv is to meet with State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, national Assembly Speaker Ahmad 'Abd al-Aziz al-Sadun and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Khalid al-Jassar respectively on Wednesday.

On Thursday, Janiv will meet with Information Minister Shaykh Nassir Mohammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah before departing the country.

OMAN

Sudanese Defense Minister 'Abdallah Visits Muscat

Arrives in Muscat

GF291419 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Transitional Military Council, Sudanese defense minister, and envoy of Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council in Sudan, arrived in the country this morning.

In a statement to a radio correspondent, Brig 'Uthman 'Abdallah said that he is carrying a written message from Lt Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, which explains the situation and recent developments in Sudan.

Delivers Message to Sultan

GF292006 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs, today received Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Transitional Military Council and Sudanese defense minister. During the meeting Brigadier 'Abdallah handed him a message from Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council in Sudan, for Sultan Qabus.

Departs Muscat 30 April

GF300075 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Staff Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Transitional Military Council, Sudanese defense minister, and envoy of Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council in Sudan, left the country this morning after a short visit to the Sultanate, during which he conveyed a message to His Majesty Sultan Qabus from Lt Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. The message was received on behalf of his majesty the sultan by Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs.

The Sudanese envoy was seen off at the airport by Staff Brigadier General al-Mu'tasim ibn Hamud Al Bu Sa'idi, minister of regional municipality affairs and general director of the sultan's protocol; and the Sudanese ambassador to the Sultanate.

QATAR

AL-RAYAH Claims Murphy's Mideast Tour 'Failed'

GF291714 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 29 Apr 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 29 Apr (WAKH) — A Qatari newspaper editorial today focused on the outcome of U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy's tour of the region.

The daily *AL-RAYAH* newspaper said that Murphy's recent mission failed to reach an agreement on the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The result is that still [words indistinct] open negotiations with Washington.

"The failure was expected even before Murphy had arrived in the area, because the American move arose from full support to Israel, turning down the dialogue with the PLO, and rejecting the international conference in which all parties concerned participate, *AL-RAYAH* added.

The Arabic daily stressed that Arabs have repeatedly rejected the U.S. stance because it did not reach the acceptable minimum.

The paper stressed that Arabs will never accept the U.S. role "How come that the United States is the adversary and the judge at the same time," it asked.

The paper added that this new U.S. move came amidst reports that U.S. President Ronald Reagan would be more sympathetic with Arabs in his second term of office, as he does not any more seek the Zionist support for running for presidency.

"But these reports turned out to be false," the paper said. If the United States actually wanted to play a real role to bring peace in the area, it should stop siding in full with Israel and should show understanding for the Arabs' stance.

SAUDI ARABIA

Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan Visits Kingdom

Meets Defense Minister

LD292234 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2058 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh 29 Apr (SPA) — The second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-Aziz this evening met with the Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan ibn Talal, who is currently visiting the Kingdom. During the meeting they reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Received by Crown Prince

LD292107 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] This evening the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at his residence the crown prince of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Prince Hasan ibn Talal and the delegation accompanying him who are currently visiting the Kingdom. During this meeting talks dealt with matters of interest to the region, bilateral relations, and the Arab and international situations.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Deputy Commander of the National Guard 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, His Royal Highness Prince Turki ibn 'Abdallah ibn Muhammad al-Sa'ud, counsellor at the office of His Royal Highness the crown prince, 'Abd al-[illegible]sin ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, counsellor at the office of His Royal Highness the crown prince, the Kingdom ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim al-Sultan and the Jordanian ambassador to the Kingdom Muhammad Rasul al-Kilani.

Opens Arab Thought Forum

JN291604 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, president of the Arab Thought Forum, has said that the current Arab situation is witnessing further fragmentation and disruption as well as further loss of major objectives amid narrow regional calculations. He stressed the importance of cohesion and cooperation to confront foreign challenges and establish the greater Arab homeland.

Opening meetings of the forum at the headquarters of the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh today, his highness called for continued responsible dialogue, revision, and reassessment to entrench gains, sharpen furture perspective, and confront all the Arab nation's issues and current and anticipated problems.

His highness expressed regret at the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, which destroys everything and threatens development projects in the two Muslim countries in favor of arms treaders and the enemies of this nation. He also praised Iraq's response to all calls of peace from various regional and international organizations to stop the war and bring about stability in the region.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan arrived in Riyadh at noon today to attend meetings of the Arab Thought Forum, which is organized by the GCC General Secretariat. He was received by His Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, first deputy prime minister.

[illegible] Kidnapped Americans in Beirut

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] to Beit, for Israel. Following the withdrawal of the Lebanese Forces, we proved by our actions that we have achieved freedom. If today, we are [illegible] in the hands of some people, we are definitely not us. We prevented the separation which took place after our withdrawal. Unfortunately, reconciliation and coexistence have not been [illegible] again without submission. We cannot see how there can be coexistence in [illegible] as there is for example.

Regarding the current situation and its consequences, Bagradian said: — We believe that there is still room for political action. We have not yet lost hope in the ability to find a political solution to existing problems. We warn everyone that the Christians, whose [illegible] in the south, are being forced by the Druze and the left [illegible] to abort themselves under Israel's protection. We told the Progressive Socialist Party and the Amal movement to reconsider, and the Palestinian and Islamic groups responsible for this.

Bagradian added: — Another consequence of their factor is now surrounded. They are using all kinds of pressure to make it surrender. The [illegible] in Sidon are still holding [illegible] to prevent Sidon from becoming a part of Lebanon under foreign protection. Sidon is the last example of coexistence among the Lebanese. Ain al-Khurrah has been a recent example of this coexistence, but they have now understood it. We hope that they will not undermine the example in Sidon.

Bagradian added: — We have continued to press where we would like to respond to a reporter's question. We should not make a choice for other [illegible] their own free [illegible]. We want the [illegible] to prevail.

Regarding the statement of Hussein on the subject from Bagradian said: — The statement confirms that there is no danger to [illegible] the Israelis were because we are going to [illegible] in Sidon. Later, they should withdraw and until [illegible] we will remain in Beirut. We know what we say. The [illegible] to our withdrawal from Sidon. We coordinate [illegible] Beirut Radio that we have no intention, no plan, and no desire to [illegible] of Sidon. We will not accept the [illegible] of the event of violations which began last Sunday. We will [illegible] would forget the name of Israel in Beirut within 48 hours.

The ambassador for the Lebanese Forces said: — The Lebanese situation is openly being solved by the Lebanese. We have been acting on the basis of the following principles since 15 March:

1. The unity of the Lebanese is a prerequisite for the unity of Lebanon. This is based on the people. — The withdrawal of the Lebanese in order to unify Lebanon. We also regard the withdrawal of the Muslims as a prerequisite for the unity of Lebanon.

2. The Lebanese army must have a prerequisite for any [illegible] national unity measures. This must be chosen by [illegible] over the past 10 years. This army will [illegible] and a measure to [illegible] Syrian Socialist Party [illegible] and be an [illegible] in Lebanon.

3. We believe that the solution, when it will [illegible] the Lebanese [illegible] on the [illegible] but must begin in Syria and, by [illegible] political fact. We are now [illegible] extensive political action [illegible] party, Christian, and national [illegible].

On the party level, the Phalangist Party Political Bureau has already announced an agreement. On the Christian level, the Executive Committee is conducting urgent contacts to unify Christian decisionmaking. Practical steps will appear during the next few days. On the national level, we are making contacts and requests which we will soon announce.

Asked about Syria's collapse in the events in Jabal al-Kharrub and Sidon and its approval of what has taken place, Bagradian said: — We do not have direct contacts with Syria so we cannot extensively assess its position. However, we regard the current Syrian position as [illegible] each of us are waiting for Damascus to clarify its stand on recent developments. We will determine our own position in light of this clarification.

Bagradian was asked the following: — [illegible] you have been following the displacement of people. [illegible] cannot support such attacks. Why [illegible] the opposing [illegible] support to make such [illegible] a commander fighter on his land? Bagradian replied: — A multidirection operation is not a proper public operation. It is an organizational operation that requires time, especially with regard to our military equipment, which after 10 years of war requires much attention. We believe that the military organization of our forces takes [illegible] We will not [illegible] on the ground without a prior announcement. You will see it. But you will not hear about it in statements for the moment. I can say, from the ongoing [illegible] political and military difficulties, that Sidon, what is known for military [illegible] [illegible].

Bagradian [illegible] organized and not [illegible]. I [illegible] contacts [illegible] that next [illegible] Executive Committee is meeting tomorrow [illegible] a group of its members are present for a [illegible] conference which will [illegible] issues and communiqués that will [illegible] the conference at its meetings.

Replying to a question, Bagradian said: — [illegible] by not accepting to accept [illegible] such as the solution adopted in Mount Lebanon and the election of the Lebanese [illegible]. The Christian [illegible] has been asked to adopt a positive [illegible]. We want a [illegible] solution that will [illegible] Lebanese [illegible].

Reportage on Clashes on Beirut Combat Lines

[illegible]

[illegible] in which [illegible] are [illegible] and [illegible] are being used [illegible] the [illegible] lines in Beirut. Recently, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Beirut. [illegible] Bagradian [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Army Positions Under Fire

NC300557 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The situation on the combat lines around Beirut's old market area flared up at 0430 today when Lebanese Army positions came under fierce rocket and artillery fire. The Army was forced to deal with the sources of that fire, and employed artillery, tanks, and machineguns to do so. It managed to silence some of the sources of the shelling.

The exchange of fire became heavier at about 0530 as the aggressors broadened the scope of their hostile activity and fired a number of shells at Sinn al-Fil. This resulted only in some property damage.

There was limited fighting on the Museum-Al-Barbir combat line. The fighting broke out when Army positions came under rocket and machinegun fire.

Cease-Fire Violated

NC300800 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The situation on the combat lines around Beirut's old market area flared up at 0430 today when Lebanese Army positions came under fierce rocket and artillery fire.

Following talks in the security committee, a cease-fire was secured at 0525. However, gunmen from various organizations in West Beirut proceeded to violate it. In the Al-Barbir area, gunmen from various organizations fired incendiary shells toward the museum. As a result, fire broke out at 0630 in parts of Hursh al-Sunawbar, near the race course. No attempt has yet been made to extinguish it.

At the port combat line, Junblatt's gunmen directed antitank weapons fire at the port's docks at 0530 today. As a result fire broke out in a vessel called *Saint Marianne*, anchored off the eighth dock. Our correspondent has reported that a Port Authority rescue boat tried to approach the ship and rescue its crew, but came under antitank weapons fire and it was not able to do so. It managed to return to port safely.

The crossing points at the museum, Al-Barbir, the port, the ring, and Sodeco remain closed. Meanwhile the activity at the crossing points at Al-Tayyunah-Shatila and Galerie Sim'an-Mar Mikha'il has been rendered tentative by the presence of gunmen.

Reportage on Activity, Comment on South Fighting

Junblatt 'To Guarantee' Jazzin

NC290721 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] In a statement to Radio France Internationale, Minister Walid Junblatt said that he will do his utmost to guarantee the security of Jazzin. He added that civilian Christians were evacuated from Iqlim al-Kharrub to protect their lives, and emphasized that they will be returned to their villages and will be compensated for the losses they sustained as a result of acts of theft and destruction.

Birri: No Attack on Jazzin

NC291511 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, has stated that yesterday's actions were directed not against the Christians but against those who deal with Israel. He added that he has agreed with Minister Walid Junblatt not to attack Jazzin or to seek to displace its inhabitants. He emphasized that he gave strict orders to the Amal movement to prevent any sedition and any advance toward Jazzin.

Minister Birri was commenting on current conditions and recent developments. He said: The heroes of the partition who perpetrated the 1975 events, plotted against the unity of Lebanon and against peaceful coexistence, and who now suck its blood are trying to harm the unionists, who have paid the price repeatedly for the successive evacuations and massacres in order to safeguard Lebanon and its unity. We remind them of Al-Nab'ah, Burj Hammud, Al-Karantinah, Al-Maslakh, Hayy al-Ghawatshah, Bitshayy, and Sibnay. We also remind them of Al-Damur, and of the Christians of the mountain and Al-Shuf and of Sidon and Iqlim al-Kharrub. Who has sinned against all of them? Isn't it you who sinned against them? What are you planning for the Christians of the border strip in the future? At any rate, I wish to emphasize, Minister Birri continued, that what happened yesterday was directed not against the Christians but against those who deal with Israel. We will not permit any violation of the honor of any person in the name of the national and Islamic forces, particularly in the name of the Progressive Socialist Party and the Amal movement, regardless to which community this person might belong. He added: I want to declare, in my own name, and that of Walid Junblatt, that we have no intention of evacuating the inhabitants of Jazzin or striking at or attacking the city. Our people live in Jazzin. We respect and admire the leaders there. Every Christian in Maghdushah, Jazzin, and elsewhere in south Lebanon is in his own homeland and among his own people. I gave the leaders in the south strict orders to prevent any sedition or advance toward Jazzin, and to establish roadblocks to prevent anyone from contemplating such actions. It is the duty of Jazzin and of every town in the south to stand fast on their land and to liberate it from Israel and its agents. I address this call to our people in Jazzin, so that they may rest assured of their safety.

Birri on Israeli Withdrawal

NC291336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Commenting on the Israeli withdrawal from the Tyre area, Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, said: On this national and pan-Arab occasion, we address greetings to the steadfast city and to its neighboring villages which confronted the enemy and foiled all his schemes. I mention in particular the seven villages which offered the

diarist things they possess and which provided a splendid example of struggle and Jihad.

He added: Although we are celebrating the liberation of Tyre and its villages in the absence of martyrs Muhammad Sa'id, Khalil Jiradi, and their devoted comrades, our celebration today confirms that we are continuing to carry out their bequest by liberating the rest of our country and by defeating the Zionist enemy.

ASL Shells Popular Liberation Army

NC291259 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] According to our correspondent in the south, members of the so-called army of southern Lebanon [ASL] in Kfar Falus are shelling 'Ayn al-Mir and (Nib'ah). The Popular Liberation Army — the forces of Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd — are stationed in those areas.

ASL Sends Reinforcements to Jazzin

NC291805 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Telephone dispatch from Voice of Lebanon correspondent Claude Abu Nadir in Jazzin — live]

[Excerpt] We have made a crucial decision to defend the Jazzin area, announced Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], during a tour of the area this afternoon.

We asked Maj Gen Lahd to comment on the current situation, and he said: The area of Jazzin has been and will remain the ASL's responsibility. We have made our decision to defend the area. We will confront those who try to uproot us from here.

Lahd added: We are here to defend the area of Jazzin until the Lebanese Government is again capable of defending the citizens. Meanwhile, Lahd met with various Jazzin functionaries. We should recall that while thousands of evacuees from Sidon and Iqlim al-Kharrub were seeking refuge in Jazzin, ASL personnel were roaming the streets and urging the Jazzin population through loudspeakers not to be afraid because the ASL will defend them.

ASL reinforcements — tanks, troop carriers, ammunition trucks, and advanced field artillery — were spotted heading toward Jazzin and Kfar Falus this morning to support defense positions there.

Artillery Duels in Lib'a

NC291828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Guarded calm prevails this evening on the 'Ayn al-Dulb-Lib'a line east of Sidon, interspersed occasionally by some bursts of automatic weapons fire and rocket explosions. Ali Atiyya was martyred and five others were wounded during the battles and artillery shelling which took place on the Lib'a line this afternoon.

Amal Statement on Fighting

NC300945 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Statement issued on 30 April by the Amal movement Military Command in the Sidon District — read by announcer]

[Text] Lahd's men and the Lebanese Forces in Kfar Falus shelled positions held by the Amal movement's fighters in 'Ayn al-Mir and Lib'a all day yesterday and throughout the night. The Lebanese Forces launched a number of abortive attacks on our positions. The movement's forces then launched a counteroffensive against Kfar Falus, Tallat al-Habaybah, and the Niqula Salim Palace. They managed to bring the Lebanese Forces Headquarters in Kfar Falus under their complete control and to occupy the hills overlooking it. Fierce battles in which all types of weapons are being used are now waging near the besieged Kafr Falus barracks, where the remnants of Lahd's forces are stationed. Our positions are coming under heavy artillery fire from emplacements manned by the Lahd forces and from Israeli positions in Al-'Ayshiyah, Jabal Safi, and Al-Ansariyah.

The movement pledges to continue resisting Israel and its agents in order to build a free and [word indistinct] society.

Fall of Kfar Falus Denied

JN301135 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1115 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] We have just received the following from the command of the army of southern Lebanon:

Citing certain sources, some local radio stations said that the village of Kfar Falus has fallen into the hands of Palestinian invaders and extremist Islamic militias and their supporters. The army of southern Lebanon's command categorically denies these reports and affirms that the battle is continuing and that the army of southern Lebanon is holding fast to its position and is in full control of the situation.

Well informed military sources in the area say the attacking forces, including Palestinians and armed Muslim elements, are calling for reserves for fear that they might have to retreat toward the coastal region.

Further on Bulgarian Officials' Visit to Damascus

Al-Asad Meets Zhivkov

JN291941 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov resumed the talks that began yesterday. They held a closed meeting at the presidential palace in Al-Muhajirin at 1030 today. The talks dealt with the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and the situation in Europe and the region, including the situation in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas and the Gulf.

The two presidents' viewpoints were identical on the subjects discussed.

Economic Meeting Held

JN291238 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] A meeting was held at the Prime Ministry this morning under the chairmanship of Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian Central Committee member and minister of foreign trade. Attending on the Syrian side were the minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, the minister of tourism, the minister of state for planning affairs, the minister of state for environment affairs, the assistant minister of planning, and various special area directors. Attending on the Bulgarian side were the ministers of environment and agriculture [as heard], the deputy foreign trade minister, and a number Bulgarian experts.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral cooperation, the joint projects being implemented by the two sides, and the measures adopted to implement the clauses of the previous protocols and follow up the contracts that are under implementation. They also discussed ways to develop bilateral relations in the the fields of agriculture, irrigation, industry, trade, and exchange of expertise.

Al-Shar' Meets Mladenov

JN291253 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] This morning Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Petur Mladenov, Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs, who is currently visiting the country with the delegation accompanying the Bulgarian President Zhivkov.

The meeting was attended by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr Jabr al-Kafri, director of the Eastern Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry; Taha al-Khayrat, Syrian ambassador in Sofia; the director of the Middle East Department at the Bulgarian Foreign Affairs Ministry; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, talks revolved around the current developments of the Middle East situation, the international situation, and relations between the two friendly countries.

Al-Kaysi Meets Petkov

JN291943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Dr Engineer Mahmud al-Kaysi, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, met with Aleksander Petkov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Bulgarian National Agro-Industrial Union, this morning. During the meeting they stressed the need to exert every possible effort to promote agricultural cooperation between Syria and Bulgaria in implementation of the directives of Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Todor Zhivkov.

Khaddam Blames PLO for Recent Beirut Disturbances

GF261610 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
25 Apr 85 pp 1, 25

[Text] Damascus — Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam told delegates to the Islamic-Lebanese conference held in Damascus some interesting information about what happened on 16 April.

Khaddam said that Damascus had information about some of the pro-'Arafat Fatah leaders who took part in supervising the combat operations in Beirut. He added that Abu al-Za'im and a group of leaders on 16 April stayed in Juniyah where they instructed some military leaderships and some Palestinian fighters who led the operation with the aim of controlling all of western Beirut in order to pave the way for 'Arafat's return to Beirut!

Khaddam asserted that 'Arafat massed a large number of fighters, media men, and a number of leadership cadres in Cyprus. They were placed on alert in order to enter Beirut and support the forces there in case these forces controlled western Beirut on that night. Khaddam said that had this attempt, which was concocted by 'Arafat and his senior leadership not been foiled, 'Arafat and his aides would be in Beirut.

Khaddam told some of those taking part in the conference that this plot was designed to get Syria out of Lebanon and to pave the way for the return of the PLO with all its forces and well-known capabilities to Beirut since this was to take place in coordination with local powers.

Khaddam asserted also that foiling this "'Arafatist attempt" consequently foiled the plan designed to preoccupy Syria in internal problems in Lebanon.

A senior Palestinian official commented on Khaddam's statement by saying that such a news report provokes ridicule and that it is not worth a response because even the simple and the naive do not believe it. The Palestinian official told *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that such statements, voiced by Khaddam and some officials in Damascus, are designed to justify what took place and what will take place in Lebanon particularly with regard to the brutal onslaught which the Palestinians and the Lebanese national movement are facing.

Concluding his statement, the official said: We would like to ask Khaddam what Elie Hubayqah was doing in Damascus 1 day

Al-Zu'bi Appeals to World Parliaments on Lebanon

JN271556 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi has sent a letter to speakers of Arab and foreign parliaments drawing their attention to the tragic Lebanese situation and to the Israeli invasion forces' continuous shedding of Lebanese people's blood. The letter explained this tragic situation, Israel's savage deeds, and the heroic, legitimate Lebanese national resistance operations. It appealed to all world parliaments to intervene and stop Israel's criminal practices in Lebanon and its threats to peace in this region and the world.

The letter said that the invading Israeli forces are still occupying large areas of southern Lebanon in violation of this peaceful country's sovereignty, independence, and security, and of the UN Charter, the international rights [as heard], and all of the international resolutions that demanded their immediate withdrawal, including the resolutions of the UN Security Council, the General Assembly, and the IPU.

Concluding his letter, Al-Zu'bi said: We are certain that you agree with us that the international community must intervene to stop such racist, criminal deeds, prevent the violation of the security and lives of the Lebanese citizens, and end threats to peace in this region and the world. The Syrian People's Assembly would like to hear what your parliament will do or carry out in this regard.

Assembly Speaker Al-Zu'bi Returns From UAE

JN261651 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 26 Apr

[Text] Damascus — People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and his delegation returned to Damascus today following a weeklong visit to the UAE at the invitation of the speaker of the UAE Federal National Council.

Jordan Border Centers Offer 'More Facilities'

JN290750 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
29 Apr 85 pp 1, 24

[Text] KUNA has quoted arrivals from Damascus as saying that the Syrian authorities working at the Syrian-Jordanian border centers have recently begun to offer more facilities to Jordanian citizens traveling to Syria and to mitigate measures that were applied in the past. The arrivals expressed satisfaction over these new measures to the KUNA correspondent.

In another development, a large number of Syrian tradesmen arrived in Amman to purchase agriculture products directly from Jordanian farmers.

Shultz' Upcoming Visit to Amman, Cairo Noted

JN270622 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0315 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Washington — It was announced in Washington yesterday that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will visit Amman and Cairo. A State Department spokesman said that Shultz' visit aims at coordinating stands and getting acquainted with the latest moves of the capitulation axis.

Peres, Rabin, Levi, Or Discuss IDF Withdrawal

Peres Sees No 'Holocaust'

TA291908 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Gil Sadan during a tour of Jerusalem on 29 April — recorded]

[Text] [Sadan] Will Israel adhere to the principle of nonintervention in southern Lebanon even if 40,000 Christians in Jazzin are in danger of extermination?

[Peres] Look, the way you phrased the question, there is room for only one unambiguous answer. This is what you might call a leading question. From the humanitarian point, we are a country that has extended aid to many foreign people, and we will continue to do so. We have no intention of interfering politically or of committing ourselves militarily.

[Sadan] Even if the situation deteriorates beyond the predictions?

[Peres] If the situation deteriorates, we will see what happens. At the moment nothing you might call a holocaust is taking place; there are very serious problems, but it is not within our power to help.

Rabin on Security Strip

TA291809 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that what is happening in the areas evacuated by the IDF will not happen in the security strip, because Israel will immediately intervene if any force whatsoever threatens the inhabitants of that strip. The IDF, he said, will remain in the security strip for about a month in order to complete work on the international border and facilitate the organization of the security strip. The defense minister said that Jazzin is not in the security strip and he hopes that its Christian residents will be able to defend themselves.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal adds that today the IDF evacuated an area of about 400 square km containing about 125,000 inhabitants, most of them Shi'ites.

Rabin Views Christian Lebanese

TA291728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] In Tyre today, Defense Minister Rabin said today's pullback is another stage toward redeploying Israeli forces on the border and maintaining a security zone adjacent to the frontier. Rabin was speaking to reporters, among them Sha'ul Enderlin of our French [as heard] news service:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] At this stage, the IDF forces are deployed basically within the security zone, which is limited by its size because we realistically believe that we can rely on local forces only when they are adjacent to the frontier and no doubt will be backed by the IDF. Tyre was too far away to be included, and we didn't want to have too many of the Lebanese within the security zone.

Rabin Hopes for Amal Control

TA291905 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky in the Tyre area on 29 April — recorded]

[Text] [Shlonsky] Is the idea that Amal will gain control over southern Lebanon acceptable to us?

[Rabin] We hope very much that Amal will indeed take control of the area and thus continue what it has done in West Beirut. We are interested in having a Lebanese group with influence in the area and over the population be the dominant factor, rather than PLO or other organizations.

[Shlonsky] Right now, the Muslim forces in the Jazzin area are advancing. What does Muslim-Palestinian control over the Jazzin area mean in terms of Israel's security interests?

[Rabin] I believe that the Christians in the Jazzin area are capable of defending themselves, as long as they are only attacked by the Palestinians and their partners. I think they have both the power and the means to do so — but whether they want to do that or not depends entirely on them. Either way, Jazzin is not included in the security strip, which we have committed ourselves to supporting.

[Shlonsky] In other wrods, if there is Muslim-Druze control over the Jazzin area Israel will be under no obligation to take action, from the point of view of its own interests?

[Rabin] I believe that at this stage the Christians can hold out. To the best of my knowledge, at this stage there has been no advance from the Sidon area in the direction of Jazzin. However, I would like to remind all of us that we decided to deal with only

Levi on Syrian Troop Movement

TA291334 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1323 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] There are no real worrying signs of Syrian troop movements into the area evacuated by the IDF in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' Valley. Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal during the evacuation of the Tyre area.

This morning, a few hours prior to the evacuation, a large bomb weighing about 30 kg was found north of Tyre. Our correspondent reports that no one was hurt. The forces withdrew with the support and under the protection of helicopter gunships, tanks and armored personnel carriers bore flags. The soldiers painted signs along the lines of: "Goodbye, Lebanon" and "Let Us Not Meet Again" and hung them on their vehicles. The chief of staff, the commander of the Northern Command, and the unit commanders all closely followed the evacuation. On their way back, they removed road signs placed by the IDF on Lebanese roads.

Levi Assesses Situation

TA291807 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi by unidentified correspondent on 29 April in Lebanon — recorded in Hebrew with superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] [Levi, picked up in midsentence] ...We have to determine what will happen in Lebanon, and I say: No, we do not have to determine things. All we have to do is demand that whoever controls this area makes sure that no attacks are launched against us from this region. Consequently, I have no preference. I expect that since the majority of the population in this region is Shi'ite, the only group that can bring about what I have just described will be Amal, which is the main movement. As to whether it will succeed, the next few days will tell.

There is also a rather large Palestinian population, tens of thousands, primarily in the Tyre area; here also, there could be internal competition between the various terrorist organizations

Levi, Ori Comment

TA291415 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The chief of staff, Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, thinks members of the Shi'ite Amal militia and the Lebanese Army will take over most of the area evacuated today by the IDF. He was speaking with our military correspondent after the completion of the withdrawal from Tyre.

The commander of the Northern Command, Ori Or, said that with the completion of the second phase of the withdrawal, the number of IDF soldiers in Lebanon has decreased by 50 percent.

Or Sees No Syrian Army Moves

TA300530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The chief of staff has said there are no Syrian Army moves in the areas evacuated by the IDF in the eastern sector of Lebanon. It is true that individual soldiers have been seen, but there is no real movement of forces and two battalions of the Lebanese Army are controlling the sector evacuated by the IDF.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

MOZAMBIQUE

Rhodes Helpers: 89 'Location' Soldiers Killed

[illegible] (Independent Radio Station in Europe) 2100 GMT 27 Apr 81

[illegible] of the Mozambican Armed Division of the International Force for the Salvation of Zimbabwe (IFSAZ) army of the Rhodesian regime have attacked the Mozambican Caia Barracks base in the Sofala region on 25 and 27 Apr killing 89 and wounding 29 loyalist soldiers of the Mozambican Army. The guided ZIPRA fighters also set on fire 3 vehicles belonging to the Mozambican regular's tractor troops. The ZIPRA fighters returned safely to Zam.

TANZANIA

4 PAC Officials Suspects Eventhan Arrest

[illegible] (Clandestine Democratic Station in Europe) 1600 GMT 24 Apr 81

[illegible] — A member of the 4 PAC, Tshaga Nchukuru, has told his country will continue to support Zimbabwe and the cause of the freedom for the liberation of southern Africa in their struggle for liberation in Southern Africa. He said [illegible]

being carried on these issues in finishing the struggle will [illegible] that have to be implemented by all the peace-loving nations [illegible] in the world. Tshaga Nchukuru was speaking to students [illegible] Foreign Affairs Zam, on the Eventhan Mission.

He emphasized that the 4 PAC will continue to efforts to [illegible] the refugees being devised by imperialist masters to [illegible] intimidating neighbour without regard to the interests of [illegible] countries.

Tshaga Nchukuru said his country will continue to give assistance to [illegible] countries faced with [illegible] despite the problems facing that country.

Tshaga Nchukuru, who is the party's second secretary in the Foreign Relations, said the Americans already made to the 4 PAC an Embassy were worked to about $120 million. The money will further [illegible] the interest of the [illegible] themselves.

Earlier, the 4 PAC delegation, which is on the [illegible] visit, also meeting with a Cuban 4 for Mozambique's [illegible] million [illegible]. Tshaga Said Mbarak Mbarouk, who called on the big powers of the world to overthrow building warships to [illegible] agreement on the reduction of nuclear weapons in the world and to bring about true peace.

CHAD

Joint Anti-Insurgency Drive Ends in 'Failure'

AB292045 Paris AFP in French 1026 GMT 29 Apr 85

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Bangui, 29 Apr (AFP) — The military operation jointly undertaken by Bangui and Ndjamena in early April against guerrillas of southern Chad hostile to President Hissein Habre's regime has ended in failure, it was learned Monday from authorized sources in the CAR capital.

The operation, which was prepared by the general staff of the two armies, was suspended in mid-April. It was launched from each side of the Chad-CAR border following the identification in the Moyen-Chari Province (southern Chad) of several groups of Colonel Alphonse Kotiga's "Red Codos" (commandos who refuse to join the government of Ndjamena). Hissein Habre's Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) were ordered to pursue the guerrillas, while elements of the CAR Army were deployed along the border between the two countries to intercept the "Codos" trying to cross the border. Bangui and Ndjamena are convinced that the CAR territory serves as a refuge for a large number of opponents of President Hissein Habre's regime.

Authorized sources in Bangui indicate that Col Kotiga's guerrillas have finally succeeded in penetrating Cameroon from the Chadian town of Baibokoum in the east and have thus avoided any clashes with Chadian and CAR troops. CAR governmental units, which were specially sent to the border area to take part in the operation against the Chadian opponents, have returned to their barracks. These troops "combed" a portion of northwestern CAR, mainly around the towns Paoua and Markounda, for about 15 days. This portion of the CAR territory is considered to be the stronghold of the opposition to General Andre Kolingba's regime, and Bangui claims that the area actively supports Chadian rebels who for the most part belong to the same tribe. Alphonse Mbaikoua, the leader of the armed faction of this opposition who operates alongside his men (known as "Mbakaras" [as received] commandos) in Chad and in the CAR, is from the Paoua region.

The CAR Army took advantage of "this opportunity" to try to arrest some alleged opponents, an authoritative source in Bangui pointed out. The CAR troops also indulged in "some acts of indiscipline" that resulted in the shooting and killing "of at least" two people, including a child. Government forces also set eight deserted villages on fire (which they termed "suspect") close to the Chadian border. Furthermore, they arrested "about 10" CAR nationals suspected of complicity with the guerrillas. These suspects were brought to Bangui and jailed, an authoritative source said.

A week ago, the "Support Committee for Political Prisoners in the CAR" had stated in a communique issued in Paris that CAR soldiers were indulging in "severe repression and summary executions" in the Paoua District under the pretext that "the people are harboring armed opponents." The committee spoke of "massive arrests" and called for an international mission of inquiry to be sent to the region.

The Bangui authorities, while admitting that there have recently been "several cases of irregularities" in the northwest of the country, categorically denied the committee's assertions. Nevertheless, for some time now journalists have been formally forbidden to go to the "troubled" regions of the CAR where communication routes are rigorously controlled by the forces of order.

A certain amount of insecurity still prevails in the northern provinces. A few days ago, a CAR policeman was shot dead 2 km from Paoua, according to authorized sources in Bangui. A leaflet signed by opponents of General Kolingba's regime was found on the body of the victim.

GHANA

PNDC Secretaries End Meeting, Issue Communique

AB292100 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The 17th session of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] regional secretaries has ended in Sekondi. In a communique they urged district councils to enter into viable economic projects to raise enough revenue to make them self-sufficient instead of depending on traditional sources of rate collection. The secretaries called for the decentralization of the institution responsible for the implementation of the government housing program to ensure the development and use of local building materials. The conference agreed that each regional secretary should ensure the development of one or more local building materials for their rural housing program. The aim is to reduce the foreign exchange spent to import building materials.

On the operations of regional development corporations, the secretaries noted that with the exception of the central region, the rest are not functioning satisfactorily. They therefore called for their shake-up to make them efficient. To this end, the secretaries decided to assume responsibility for the operations of the corporations and liaise with other agencies concerned with their operations to ensure that they live up to the objectives for which they were established.

Joint Commission With Algeria Begins Meeting

AB291555 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The second session of the Ghana-Algeria joint commission for cooperation opened at the Kwame Nkrumah conference center in Accra today. The 3-day conference will cover bilateral relations between the two countries including the expansion of trade, petroleum matters, education, fishery, and communications.

In his opening address, the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, hoped the matters on the agenda would be given the serious attention they deserve to bring a real and meaningful impact on the economies of both countries. He said Ghana values her special relations with Algeria, which date back to the era of the common struggle for independence. Dr Asamoah added that there is a mutual desire to relate the political goodwill that exists between Ghana and Algeria to bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries. He spoke of the identical views held by both countries on African and international issues with reference to Namibia, South Africa, and the Western Sahara.

In his reply, the vice minister for foreign affairs and leader of the nine-member Algerian delegation, Mr Noureddine Harbi, referred to the recent visit by the chairman of the PNDC to Algeria and said Algeria has every interest in strengthening economic relations with Ghana. He said Ghana was the first country to support Algeria's just struggle for independence and is therefore very dear to the Algerian people.

Rawlings, Malian Envoy Discuss Cooperation

AB261843 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] The Malian ambassador to Ghana, Mr Halidou Toure, today delivered a special message from President Moussa Traore of Mali to the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, at the castle Osu. The contents of the message was not disclosed. Mr Toure later told newsmen that the message was on bilateral cooperation between the two countries. He said he and Flight Lieutenant Rawlings discussed how to implement the program drawn up at the 6th session of the Ghana-Mali Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation. They also discussed matters concerning the African Continent.

Trade Talks With Czechoslovakia Continue

AB261742 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Ghana and Czechoslovakia are working on a draft proposal for a barter agreement between them. This was disclosed by the Czechoslovak ambassador to Ghana, Ladislav Sobr, when he paid a courtesy call on a member of the PNDC, Mrs Susan Alhassan, in Accra. The discussions are said to have centered on the products to be exchanged under the agreement.

Mr Sobr said there are plans to establish direct contact between the faculties of agriculture of the University of Prague and the University of Ghana. The envoy expressed his readiness to promote cooperation between the trade unions, women and youth organizations of the two countries. Mrs Alhassan appealed to the Czechoslovak Government to help resuscitate factories established in Ghana with assistance from that country. The factories include the Ashanti shoe factory and the Asutuare sugar factory. She also asked for Czechoslovak assistance for the PNDC's economic recovery program. Mrs Alhassan expressed Ghana's gratitude for the support Czechoslovakia gives to issues like the fight against apartheid and the liberation movements in southern Africa.

NIGERIA

Gombe Sect Rioting Death Toll Rises to 150

AB291650 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Lagos, April 29 (AFP) — The death toll in the religious violence in north-eastern Nigerian town of Gombe has risen to 150, the NIGERIAN NEWS AGENCY reported today. It said about 250 members of the fanatical Maitatsine sect had been arrested in the wake of the weekend violence.

Some 100,000 rounds of ammunition and some guns captured from the police were said to have been recovered from members of the dissident Moslem sect who fled when police assaulted their stronghold in Gombe. Most local residents who had taken refuge in the homes of traditional rulers and army barracks were now returning to their homes, NAN said.

The violence broke out when police arrested a local leader of the sect, whose clashes with the security forces in various towns of northern Nigeria have resulted in thousands of deaths in the past five years.

Niger River, Lake Chad Basin Summits Open

Leaders Arrive

AB290743 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Lagos, April 29 (AFP) — Three West African heads of state — Seyni Kountche of Niger, Mathieu Kerekou of Benin and Hissein Habre of Chad — arrived here sunday to attend meetings today and tomorrow of two regional economic bodies — the Niger River and Lake Chad Basin authorities.

Burkina Faso head of state Captain Thomas Sankara has said he will not be attending the summit talks.

Buhari Addresses Joint Session

AB291635 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Nigeria has thanked the international community for making substantial contributions to various funds for the development of longer term measures against drought and desert encroachment in Africa. It, however, advised the organizations concerned to take countries in the region into confidence while drawing up the development plans.

The commendation was made in Lagos today by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, while addressing a joint opening session of the summits of the Niger River Basin Authority and the Lake Chad Basin Commission. He stressed the need for interregional cooperation in tackling problems created by natural disasters in the Saheilan zone of Africa.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent says immediately after the opening address, the delegates [words indistinct] to enable members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission to leave the conference venue for the summit of the Niger Basin Authority which is now in preliminary session. The working session of the Lake Chad Basin Commission will take place tomorrow.

Drought Discussed

AB252151 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The 13th session of the Niger Basin Authority's Council of Ministers opened in Lagos today. It is discussing the activities and problems of the Authority. Correspondent Chike Omenumwa was at the opening session.

[Begin recording] Ministers from the nine member states of the Authority are attending the session. They are the Republic of Benin, Burkina, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Chad. The minister of agriculture, water resources and rural development, Dr Bukar Shaib, who is the current chairman of the Authority, remarked in his opening address that things had not changed much since the last meeting in Niamey. If anything, the drought situation had worsened. The food situation in the basin did not improve either. Economic activities based on the river, such as fishing, navigation, hydropower generation, and irrigation had also been adversely affected. This was as a result of the very low water level of the Niger River at the moment. The Niger River now has its lowest level ever recorded in its history. Dr Shaib also spoke on the finances of the authority which he described as a very acute problem for the new executive secretary on assumption of office. [Passage indistinct]

Dr Shaib remarked that the projects that were common to the Authority and international agencies, were suffering because of the acute financial situation. Such agencies, which in spite of the fiscal realities continue to embark on projects in collaboration with the authority, deserve commendation.

The report of the Secretariat was not silent also on the fiscal situation of the Niger Basin Authority. It deplored the downward trend in the rate of payment of contributions by member states. Such a situation, it warned, if not arrested in time, could adversely affect the smooth operations of the organization. The executive secretary, Mr Ibrahim Balde, disclosed that the outstanding accumulated contributions for the past 2 years, stood at over 22 million naira. The ministerial meeting is preparatory to the summit which will be held in Lagos next week.

The convention establishing the Niger Basin Authority, was adopted on 1 November 1980 at Farannah, Guinea. It aims at promoting cooperation among member states, and to ensure an integrated development of the Niger Basin. This will be by developing its resources, particularly in the areas of energy, water resources, agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing [words indistinct], transport as well as communications and industry. [End recording]

Minister Meets With Yugoslav, Hungarian Envoys

AB261010 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] In Nigeria's new federal capital, Abuja, 96 plots of land have so far been allocated to diplomatic missions. The minister for the Federal Capital Territory, Major General Mamman Vatsa, made this known while exchanging views with the Yugoslav ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Ramadan Marmulaku. He advised Yugoslav firms to be involved in the development of the Federal Capital Territory. Earlier, the ambassador had expressed delight at the positive development in Abuja. He said that he was particularly impressed by the Federal Goverment's efforts to develop infrastructures in the territory before allocating plots. The Hungarian ambassador, Mr Jazsef Bende, had also paid a courtesy call on the minister. He told newsmen later that the vocational training center under construction in the Karshi local government area of the territory was a joint venture between Nigeria and Hungary. When operational next September, the school will offer training in 24 different trades.

CONCORD Urges Review of Commonwealth Membership

AB271030 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 27 Apr 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the *NATIONAL CONCORD* emphasizes the need for Nigeria to review her continued membership of the Commonwealth while the activities of the Commonwealth leave much to be desired. And to worsen the whole matter, says the paper, Britain has continued to maintain sporting links with the apartheid regime while the Australian rugby team went on a tour of South Africa. The paper is equally enraged by the recent decision of the New Zealand rugby team to tour South Africa in spite of spirited attempts to discourage it. While the *CONCORD* echoes the spirit of antiracist sport as entrenched in the Gleneagles agreement in 1977, it rejects the often given excuse of divorcing sports from politics. The paper remarks that these sporting ventures have become cheap publicity stands for the obnoxious system in South Africa. The *CONCORD* hopes that African Commonwealth members will rise up to this issue equally. It advises them to make other members understand their intentions of either the games next year or a total pullout of the Commonwealth itself. [Sentence as heard]

SIERRA LEONE

Expulsion of College Students Sparks Violence

AB292235 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] There has been yet another eruption of trouble at Fourah Bay College in Freetown, Sierra Leone, today. Today a new university term was due to start. There has been a history of disturbances on the campus. After the last confrontation, students were sent home until they would have to sign an agreement under which they will accept (?responsibility) for any confusion done to the college property. But 41 students were not invited to sign the agreement. They are considered expelled. That apparently sparked off today's violence, much of which was directed at the vice principal. From Freetown, Sierra Leone, Carlos Camara sends this report:

[Begin recording] What started as a protest march turned into an orgy of vandalism which brought the city of Freetown to a halt. The vice principal's car was burned and a number of vehicles on the west end of the city were overturned and used as road blocks. Reliable sources told me when I drove up to the campus that the students had set fire to the vice principal's car because, according to them, he is the leader of a group of lecturers who take hardline decisions against the students. There were no students in sight when I drove into the campus after evading several roadblocks, but I learned from reliable sources that the burning of the vice principal's car was also in protest against the dismissal of three lecturers who were said to be known student sympathizers. One of those students expelled is Ali Kaba, an arts student who was elected unopposed last term to lead a new student executive; however, this executive was suspended by the college administration even before he took office.

A unit of policemen armed with tear gas cannisters were patrolling the university campus this afternoon in anticipation of further trouble despite a newly established police post whose personnel failed to forestall today's troubles. A senior police officer who led his unit onto the campus told me that he has the mandate to save lives and property, but he did not say whether any student had been arrested in connection with today's incident. [End recording]

Further Report

AB291655 Paris AFP in English 1643 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Freetown, April 29 (AFP) — Rampaging students took to the streets of Sierra Leone's capital today, setting up road blocks and stoning security forces. They were reportedly protesting at a ban by the university authorities on 41 students, mostly members of the student executive, who refused to sign a good behaviour pledge. Shops were looted and para-military units fired teargas to quell the disturbances, eyewitnesses said. Cars were damaged, including that of the vice-principal of the university's Fourah Bay College, which was set on fire. A number of public buildings were also stoned but the situation was brought under control after about two hours. Armed police mounted guard at the headquarters of the ruling party, the All People's Congress.

On the university campus itself, there were fistfights between students and the college canteen was reporterdly damaged. The students are resisting a university bond agreement which binds the signatory to be of "good behaviour" during his stay at college and makes him liable for any damage done to university property. The students are demanding the removal of a recently established police post on the campus, and the reversal of the decision not to admit the 41. The total student population of Fourah Bay College is 1,500, including a number of foreign students from Namibia, China, North Korea, Nigeria, Ghana, Gambia, and Liberia.

An official statement said later that the government viewed with grave concern the acts of indiscipline, and steps had been taken to apprehend some of those involved while the investigations continued. The statement assured students that "the authorities are doing everything possible to keep the college open for the majority of students who wish to pursue their studies peacefully and that security has been tightened to give them adequate protection." The statement said that students who have been suspended from the college "are not allowed to enter the campus and would be subject to arrest if they do so." The statement accused some students of committing acts of violence by damaging cars and disrupting lectures and registration. Registration for the Easter term began last Saturday and should have continued today when violence erupted in the campus and spilled into the capital. The situation was slowly returning to normal although business houses and government offices closed early.

Ministry Officials Visit Iran, Meet Prime Minister

For Iranian reportage on the visit to Tehran of a delegation led by Foreign Affairs Minister Sheka Kanu, including his meeting with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, see the Iran section of

the South Asia *DAILY REPORT* on 29 April and subsequent issues.

TOGO

Eyadema Meets With Beninese Delegation

AB291605 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Excerpt] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic, this morning received a 2-member delegation of the People's Republic of Benin at the presidential palace in Lome. This delegation is led by General Barthelemy Ohouens, grand chancellor of the Benin National Order and includes Amadou Bukar, director general of the Guarantee Fund of the Africa and Mauritian Common Organization, whose headquarters is in Cotonou.

It delivered two messages to the head of state: two messages from General Matthieu Kerekou, president of the People's of Benin, to his brother and friend, Gen Eyadema, on the Air Afrique multinational company, and the dissolved African and Mauritian Common Organization.